Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1-7.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Original) A method, comprising:

periodically transmitting, at a switch, a heartbeat message to a network having one or more repeaters, the heartbeat message including a VLAN ID identifying the switch; and

in response to a response from a repeater, transmitting VLAN configuration information to the repeater, the VLAN configuration information including a VLAN ID identifying each traffic criteria.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising downloading operating software to the repeater to enable the repeater to operate.

11-25. (Cancelled)

26.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

determining at a repeater that a connection between the repeater and a switch is down, based on at least one of a heartbeat, beacon, and/or data messages received from the switch; and

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in response to the determination, performing a reset process within the repeater

that enables the repeater to reestablish a new connection with the switch <u>wherein the</u>

<u>reset process further comprises:</u>

        <u>listening at the repeater all messages broadcasted over a network;</u>

        <u>identifying at least one message that is associated with the switch, the</u>

<u>message associated with the switch including a VLAN ID identifying the switch; and</u>

        <u>establishing a connection with the switch using the VLAN ID.</u>

27.   (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 26,~~ <u>A method, comprising:</u>

    <u>determining at a repeater that a connection between the repeater and a switch is</u>

<u>down, based on at least one of a heartbeat, beacon, and/or data messages received from</u>

<u>the switch; and</u>

    <u>in response to the determination, performing a reset process within the repeater</u>

<u>that enables the repeater to reestablish a new connection with the switch</u> wherein the

reset process comprises:

    broadcasting a message at the repeater to the switch, the broadcasted message

indicating that the repeater is entering the network;

    receiving VLAN (virtual local area network) configuration information from the

switch;

    downloading operating software from the switch to launch an operating

environment of the repeater; and

    communicating with the switch using the VLAN configuration information in

subsequent communications.

28.   (Cancelled)

29.   (Original) A method, comprising:

determining, at a switch based on heartbeat messages or other responses received from a first repeater, that a connection between the switch and the first repeater is down;

in response to the determination, determining, after a predetermined period of time, whether there is still at least one mobile station associated with the first repeater; and

reassociating the at least one mobile station with a second repeater if there is still at least one mobile station associated with the first repeater.

30.   (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein reassociating the at least one mobile station comprises performing a token handoff process from the first repeater to the second repeater to allow the second repeater communicate with the mobile station as a primary repeater.

31-40. (Cancelled)

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